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PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 100201141-1

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Gregory Eugene Perkins

Confirmation No.: 1153

Application No.: 10/085,927

Examiner: Bayard, Djenane

Filing Date: Feb. 27, 2002

Group Art Unit: 2141

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Title: RESOURCE LOCATION AND ACCESS

JUN 26 2006

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TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEFTransmitted herewith is the Appeal Brief in this application with respect to the Notice of Appeal filed on June 26, 2006.

The fee for filing this Appeal Brief is (37 CFR 1.17(c)) \$500.00.

(complete (a) or (b) as applicable)

The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) apply.

☐ (a) Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 (fees: 37 CFR 1.17(a)-(d)) for the total number of months checked below:

☐ 1st Month
\$120

☐ 2nd Month
\$450

☐ 3rd Month
\$1020

☐ 4th Month
\$1590

☐ The extension fee has already been filed in this application.

☒ (b) Applicant believes that no extension of time is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.

Please charge to Deposit Account 08-2025 the sum of \$ 500. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 08-2025 under 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.21 inclusive, and any other sections in Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations that may regulate fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Eugene Perkins

By 

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Rev 10/05 (Ap/Brief)

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**PATENT APPLICATION
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INVENTOR(S): Gregory Eugene Perkins, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/085,927

GROUP ART UNIT: 2141

FILED: Feb. 27, 2002

EXAMINER: Bayard, Djenane M

SUBJECT: RESOURCE LOCATION AND ACCESS

APPELLANTS'/APPLICANTS' OPENING BRIEF ON APPEAL

06/29/2006 BABRAHA1 00000036 002025 10005927

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1. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST.

The real party in interest is Hewlett-Packard Development Company, LP, a limited partnership established under the laws of the State of Texas and having a principal place of business at 20555 S.H. 249 Houston, TX 77070, U.S.A. (hereinafter "HPDC"). HPDC is a Texas limited partnership and is a wholly-owned affiliate of Hewlett-Packard Company, a Delaware Corporation, headquartered in Palo Alto, CA. The general or managing partner of HPDC is HPQ Holding, LLC.

2. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES.

There are no other appeals or interferences known to Appellants, Appellants' legal representative or the Assignee which will affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

3. STATUS OF CLAIMS.

Claims 1-25 are pending. All pending claims are appealed.

4. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS.

No amendments have been filed after the final action was entered. All previous amendments have been entered.

5. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER.

Claim 1 recites a method for locating a resource in a computer network that includes providing an interface having instructions to send association data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0038]. An identity service is identified using the association data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The identity service manages resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The resource is located using the resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0043].

Claim 5 recites a method for locating a resource for a user in a computer network where that method includes providing an interface having instructions to send

association data to two or more association services. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0038]. From the two or more association services, an association service with which the user has established a relationship is identified. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0040]. Using the association data sent to the identified association service, an identity service is identified. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The identity service manages resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The resource is located using the resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0043].

Claim 6 recites a method for locating a resource in a computer network that includes providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0036]. The web bug is requested by sending a cookie and an URL for the web page. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0036]. The cookie and the URL are saved for the web page as an entry in an association table. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0036]. Providing the URL for the web page, the association table is queried for the cookie in the entry containing the URL. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. Other entries in the association table containing the cookie are identified. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. From those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service is identified. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The identification service manages resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0040] and [0041]. The resource is located using the resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0043].

Claim 7 recites a method for producing an electronic document where that method includes generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. Providing an URL for the generated web page, the association service is queried to identify an identity service with which the user is registered. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The user's resource data is obtained from the

identified identity service. See, e.g., Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. A document management service is located and accessed using the resource data. See, e.g., Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. Additional content for the web page is provided for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service. See, e.g., Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. A document is produced according to selections made through the web page. See, e.g., Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

Claim 9 recites a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing various acts. Those acts include (1) providing an interface having instructions to send association data; (2) identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data; and (3) locating a resource using the resource data. See, e.g., Specification, paragraphs [0038]-[0043].

Claim 13 recites a computer readable medium having instructions for performing various acts. Those acts include (1) providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services; (2) identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which a user has established a relationship; (3) identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data; and (4) locating a resource for the user using the resource data. See, e.g., Specification, paragraphs [0038]-[0043].

Claim 14 recites a computer readable medium having instructions for performing various acts. Those acts include (1) providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug; (2) requesting the web bug sending a cookie and an URL for the web page; (3) saving the cookie and the URL for the web page as an entry in an association table; (4) querying, providing the URL for the web page, the association table for the cookie in the entry containing the URL; (5) identifying another entries in the association table containing the cookie; (6) identifying, from those entries, the entry

containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data; and (7) locating a resource using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0036]-[0043].

Claim 15 recites a computer readable medium having instructions for performing various tasks. Those tasks include generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options and querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The tasks include obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service and locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The tasks also include providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service and producing a document according to selections made through the web page. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

Claim 17 recites a system for locating a resource that includes an association module and an application. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraph [0024]. The association module is operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier, in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0026], [0027], and [0040]. The application is operable to (1) provide an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface; (2) acquire resource data from an identity service identified by a query from the association module; and (3) locate the resource using the resource data. *See, e.g.*, Specification, paragraphs [0038]-[0043].

Claim 19 recites a document production system that includes an association module and a document production application. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0024]. The association module is operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0026], [0027], and [0040]. The document production application is operable to perform various tasks. Those tasks include providing an interface having content for sending association data containing a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The tasks include acquiring resource data from an identity service identifier identified by a query from the association module and locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049]. The tasks also include providing, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service and producing a document according to selections made through the interface. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

Claim 20 recites a system for locating a resource where that system includes an identity service, an association server, an association table interface, an association module, and an application. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0028]. The identity service is operable to manage resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0022] and [0026]. The association server is operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0027]. The association table interface is in communication with the association server and is operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using a session identifier supplied with the query. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0027]. The association module is operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the

association service in order to identify the identity service. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0040]. The application is operable to (1) provide an interface having instructions to send association data to an association server, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface; (2) acquire resource data from the identity service identified by a query from the association module; and (3) locate the resource using the resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0038]-[0043].

Claim 22 recites a document production system that includes a document management service, an identity service, an association server, an association table interface, an association module, and a document production application. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0028] and [0044]. The identity service is operable to manage resource data for locating and accessing the document management service. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0022] and [0026]. The association server is operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0027]. The association table interface is in communication with the association server and is operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using the session identifier supplied with the query. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0027]. The association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraph [0040]. The a document production application operable to perform various tasks. Those tasks include providing an interface having content for sending association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options. The tasks include acquiring resource data from an identity service using the session identifier for the identity service identified by a query from the association module and locating and access the document management service using the resource data. The tasks also include providing, for the interface, additional content

for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service and producing a document according to selections made through the interface. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

Claim 24 recites a system for locating a resource. That system includes a means for querying, supplying a session identifier, an association service in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. The system includes a means for providing an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface. The system also includes a means for acquiring resource data from an identity service identified by a query and a means for locating the resource using the resource data. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0028] and [0038]-[0043].

Claim 25 recites a document production system that includes a means for querying, supplying a session identifier, an association service in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. The system includes a means for providing an interface having content for sending association data containing a session identifier for the provided interface to the association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options. The system includes a means for acquiring resource data from an identity service identified by a query. The system includes a means for locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data. The system also includes a means for providing, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service and a means for producing a document according to selections made through the interface. *See, e.g.,* Specification, paragraphs [0024]-[0028] and paragraphs [0045]-[0049].

6. GROUNDS FOR REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED.

A. Sampson does not teach or suggest identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data.

B. Sampson does not teach or suggest locating the resource using the resource data.

C. Sampson does not teach or suggest identifying other entries in an association table containing a given cookie and identifying from those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data.

D. Sampson fails to teach or suggest an association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service.

E. Sampson and Lu fail to teach or suggest querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page.

F. Sampson and Lu fail to teach or suggest locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data.

G. Sampson and Lu fail to teach or suggest an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data.

7. ARGUMENT.

Grounds For Rejection A (Claims 1-5, 9-13, 17, 18, and 24) – Sampson does not teach or suggest identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102: The Examiner rejected Claims 1-6, 9-14, 17, and 19-25 under §102 as being anticipated by USPN 6,490,624 issued to Sampson.

Sampson is directed to session management in a stateless network such as the Internet. See, e.g., Sampson, Title and Abstract. Sampson's system includes a number of access servers each of which acts as a gatekeeper for a protected server. Session information for a given client is stored in a session manager bound to an access server. In operation a client logs into an access server for a first protected server and then submits a request for a resource of a second protected server. The session manger for the access server determines whether the client has any authenticated sessions with any other access servers. If so, the client is permitted to access the resource of the second protected server without first logging in. See Sampson, Abstract.

Claim 1 is directed to a method for locating a resource and recites the following acts:

1. providing an interface having instructions to send association data;
2. identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data; and
3. locating the resource using the resource data.

Citing Sampson, the Examiner contends that the act of identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data is taught by Sampson, col. 13, lines 5-67. Addressing the Applicants' remarks against this assertion the Examiner makes the following statements:

Sampson et al clearly teaches wherein the session manger takes the session ID and performs checks on it (See col. 13, lines 5-15) and upon receipt of the status code value from the session manager the electronic document is created and sent to the client (See col. 13, lines 40-67). Furthermore, Sampson teaches wherein the client requests a protected resource from protected server (See col. 14, lines 25-26).

The Examiner fails to address the plain language of Claim 1 – that is – “identifying an identity service using the association data.” Sampson’s “session manager” does not use a session ID to identifier an identity service. The Examiner does not even assert that Sampson’s Session ID is used to identify anything. Paragraph [0022] of the Specification describes an identity service as “any combination of hardware and/or programming capable of providing information for locating and accessing resource service 14.” Paragraph [0026] describes resource data as data for locating a particular resource. As clarified below, Sampson’s Session ID is not used to identify hardware or programming of any kind. It is simply used to determine whether or not a Client will be granted access to a previously identified protected server.

Sampson describes a system in which a client makes a request for a document from a protected server. Sampson, col. 12, lines 65-67. As a consequence, a runtime sends a message to a session object requesting validation of a session between the client and the protected server. Sampson, col. 13, lines 1-3. The message includes a “Session ID.” Sampson, col. 13, lines 4-5.

Sampson’s session manager takes the Session ID and performs a series of tasks that include:

- (1) ensuring that the Session ID is in a hash table (col. 13, lines 6-18);
- (2) determining whether the Session ID has been revoked (col. 13, lines 19-23);
- (3) determining whether an idle time out has occurred with respect to the Session ID (col. 13, lines 24-28); and
- (4) generating a status code for the Status ID (col. 13, lines 29-39);

Sampson’s runtime then performs tasks that include:

- (1) allowing the client access to the protected server according to the status code (col. 13, lines 34-39);
- (2) denying the client access to the protected server and sending the client a message explaining why (col. 13, lines 40-53).

A cursory review of the passage relied on by the Examiner reveals that Sampson's Session ID is not used to identify an identity service that manages resource data. It is not even used to identify the protected server to which a client is requesting access. It is simply used to determine whether or not a client must re-enter a user name and password to access the protected server. Sampson, col. 13, lines 6-18 and Fig. 5C.

Consequently, Sampson fails to teach a method that includes identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data. For at least this reason, Claim 1 is patentable over Sampson. Claims 2-4 are also patentable over Sampson due at least in part to their dependence from Claim 1.

Claim 5 is directed to a method for locating a resource for a user and recites the following acts:

1. providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services;
2. identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which the user has established a relationship;
3. identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data; and
4. locating the resource using the resource data.

As for the act of identifying an identity service using the association data, the Examiner once again cites Sampson, col. 13, lines 5-67. That passage was summarized above with respect to Claim 1. The various paragraphs in that passage describe a session manager checking a session ID to determine whether it is known, checking to determine if the session ID has been revoked, and checking whether a timeout has occurred with respect to the session ID. NONE of those checks involve using the session ID to identify an identity service that manages resource data. The passage also describes generating a status code value based on the outcome of the

checks. That status code value represents the status of a session associated with the session ID. That value is then tested to determine if a valid session exists. Based on the value of the status code value, access to a protected server is either granted or denied.

As clarified above with respect to Claim 1, that passage does not teach or suggest the use of association data to identify an identity service that manages resource data.

As such Sampson fails to teach or suggest "identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data" as recited by Claim 5. For at least this reason, Claim 5 is patentable over Sampson.

Claim 9 is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so are Claim 9 and Claims 10-12 which depend from Claim 9.

Claim 13 is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 5. For at least the same reasons Claim 5 is patentable, so is Claim 13.

Claim 17 is directed to a system for locating a resource, and recites the following elements:

1. an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier, in order to identify an identity service managing resource data; and
2. an application operable to:
 - a. provide an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;

- b. acquire resource data from an identity service identified by a query from the association module; and
- c. locate the resource using the resource data.

In short, Claim 17 recites a system capable of implementing the method of Claim 1. For some mysterious reason, the Examiner rejected Claim 17 citing the same grounds used to reject Claim 5. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so is Claim 17 and Claim 18 which depends from Claim 17.

Claim 24 is directed to system for implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so is Claim 24.

Grounds For Rejection B (Claims 1-5, 9-13, 17, 18, and 24) – Sampson does not teach or suggest locating the resource using the resource data.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102: The Examiner rejected Claims 1-6, 9-14, 17, and 19-25 under §102 as being anticipated by USPN 6,490,624 issued to Sampson.

Claim 1 is directed to a method for locating a resource and recites the following acts:

1. providing an interface having instructions to send association data;
2. identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data; and
3. locating the resource using the resource data.

Citing Sampson, the Examiner contends that the act of locating the resource using the resource data is taught by Sampson, col. 14, lines 25-35. Addressing the Applicants' remarks against this assertion the Examiner makes the following statement: "Sampson clearly teaches wherein based on the session ID, the client can access resources on the protected server (See col. 13 and col. 14)."

Above, the Examiner equated Sampson's Session ID with association data. Now the Examiner is trying to equate the Session ID with resource data. Ignoring the Examiner's mysterious leap in logic, Sampson's teachings of accessing a protected resource based on a Session ID have nothing to do with locating any resource using any type of data. As clarified above, a determination as to where a client is to be granted access to a protected resource is based on the validity of the Session ID. The Session ID is not used to locate anything let alone a resource.

Consequently, Sampson fails to teach locating a resource using resource data. For at least this additional reason, Claim 1 is patentable over Sampson. Claims 2-4 are also patentable over Sampson due at least in part to their dependence from Claim 1.

Claim 5 is directed to a method for locating a resource for a user and recites the following acts:

5. providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services;
6. identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which the user has established a relationship;
7. identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data; and
8. locating the resource using the resource data.

As for the act of locating the resource using the resource data, the Examiner once again cites Sampson, col. 14, lines 25-35. As clarified above with respect to Claim 1, that Sampson does not teach or suggest locating the resource using the resource data. For at least this additional reason, Claim 5 is patentable over Sampson.

Claim 9 is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so are Claim 9 and Claims 10-12 which depend from Claim 9.

Claim 13 is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 5. For at least the same reasons Claim 5 is patentable, so is Claim 13.

Claim 17 is direct to a system for locating a resource, and recites the following elements:

3. an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier, in order to identify an identity service managing resource data; and
4. an application operable to:
 - a. provide an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;
 - b. acquire resource data from an identity service identified by a query from the association module; and
 - c. locate the resource using the resource data.

In short, Claim 17 recites a system capable of implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so is Claim 17 and Claim 18 which depends from Claim 17.

Claim 24 is directed to system for implementing the method of Claim 1. For at least the same reasons Claim 1 is patentable, so is Claim 24.

Grounds For Rejection C (Claims 6 and 14) – Sampson fails to teach or suggest identifying other entries in an association table containing a given cookie and identifying from those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102: The Examiner rejected Claims 1-6, 9-14, 17, and 19-25 under §102 as being anticipated by USPN 6,490,624 issued to Sampson.

Claim 6 is directed to a method, in a computer network, for locating a resource and recites the following acts:

1. providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug;
2. requesting the web bug sending a cookie and an URL for the web page;
3. saving the cookie and the URL for the web page as an entry in an association table;
4. querying, providing the URL for the web page, the association table for the cookie in the entry containing the URL;
5. identifying other entries in the association table containing the cookie;
6. Identifying from those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data; and
7. locating the resource using the resource data.

Citing Sampson, the Examiner contends that the acts of identifying other entries and identifying from those entries are taught by Sampson, col. 14, lines 25-35. Addressing the Applicants' remarks against this assertion the Examiner simply quotes Sampson, col. 14, lines 10-50 followed by a statement that "Sampson et al teaches wherein identifying other entries in the association table containing the cookie, identifying from those entries an entry containing URL for an identification service."

The Examiner's statement, even if true is not enough to support a §102 rejection. Claim 6 recites that the URL is for an identification service and that the identification service manages resource data. Nonetheless, the Examiner's statement is simply not accurate. The passage relied upon by the Examiner is reproduced as follows:

Such notification facilitates security of the system. For example, assume that the Idle Timeout value is set to "15 minutes." Client 100 obtains a resource that is protected by Protected Server 104A, and in the course of obtaining it, Client 100 is authenticated in the system. Runtime 406A notifies Session Manager 420A that it is conducting a session with Client 100. A new set of session information is created by Session Manager 420A. Session Manager 420A stores the current time in the Last Access Time value of the set of session information that is associated with the current session between Client 100 and Runtime 406A. Session Manager 420A notifies Session Manager 420B to update the Last Access time value in the replicated session information that it stores for the same session.

Client 100 then requests a protected resource from Protected Server 104B. Runtime 406B updates the Last Access Time value, and provides it to Session Manager 420A, which also updates its copy of the Last Access Time. Assume that Client 100 actively works with resources managed by Protected Server 104B for more than 15 minutes, and then returns to Access Server 104A to obtain one of its protected resources. Since the Last Access Time value is updated by Session Manager 420B each time Client 100 interacts with Access Server 104B, Session Manager 420A determines that Client 100 is active and may interact with Protected Server 104A to access its resources.

However, if the Session Managers did not communicate with one another to update session information, Session Manager 420A would determine that Client 100 last contacted it more than 15 minutes ago, and an Idle Timeout error would occur. Client 100 would be required to re-authenticate itself before Access Server 104B could grant access to its protected resources.

Alternatively, in this example Session Manager 420B could contact Session Manager 420A and obtain the Last Access Time value for the current session only when the Client 100 contacts Session Manager 420B. However, if the link between Session Manager 420A and Session Manager 420B was busy, down, or unavailable, Session Manager 420B would be unable to obtain such information.

Sampson, col. 14, lines 12-50.

As this passage reveals, Sampson describes a system in which a client who is authenticated to access a first protected resource (104A) need not re-authenticate before accessing a second protected resource (104B) so long as the session between the client and the first protected resource (104A) remains valid. To implement this

system, Sampson relies on session managers (420A and 420B). Session manager (420A) ensures the session between the client and protected resource (104A) is valid before the client can access that resource. Session manager (420B) ensures the session between the client and protected resource (104B) is valid before the client can access that resource. The two session managers (420A and 420B) communicate with one another to ensure that if a session between the client and one resource is valid a session between the client and the other resource is also valid.

Sampson's session managers (420A and 420B) do not identify an entry in a table containing an URL for anything let alone an URL for an identification service that manages resource data. The passage does not even mention the term URL. The Applicant challenges the Examiner to specifically identify individual passages in Sampson that describe what one might reasonably equate with (1) an association table, (2) an entry in an association table that contains an URL, (3) an URL for an identification service, and (4) an identification service managing resource data. Absent such a showing, the rejection cannot stand.

The Applicant maintains that such a showing cannot be made because Sampson fails to teach or suggest identifying other entries in the association table containing the cookie and identifying from those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data. For at least this reason Claim 6 is patentable over Sampson.

Claim 14 is directed to is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 6. For at least the same reasons Claim 6 is patentable, so is Claim 14.

Grounds For Rejection D (Claims 20 and 21) – Sampson fails to teach or suggest an association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102: The Examiner rejected Claims 1-6, 9-14, 17, and 19-25 under §102 as being anticipated by USPN 6,490,624 issued to Sampson.

Claim 20 is directed to a system for locating a resource and recites the following elements:

1. an identity service operable to manage resource data;
2. an association server operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table;
3. an association table interface in communication with the association server and operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using a session identifier supplied with the query;
4. an association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service;
5. an application operable to:
 - a) provide an interface having instructions to send association data to an association server, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;
 - b) acquire resource data from the identity service identified by a query from the association module; and
 - c) locate the resource using the resource data.

The Examiner asserts that the association module element of Claim 20 is taught by Sampson, col. 9, lines 52-67 and col. 14, lines 25-35. Those passages are reproduced as follows:

Database 450 maintains a list of sessions. All Session Managers 420A, 420B know the list of sessions. In one implementation, the list is kept in memory, and any change to a session is broadcast to all Session

Managers. Alternatively, the list of sessions may be maintained in a database table. Database replication may be used to provide redundancy. Each Session Manager may be located in the same computer as the computer that hosts the database.

A Logging Service 430 may be coupled to each of the Session Managers 420A, 420B. The Logging Service 430 receives information about the actions taken by the Session Managers and records such information in one or more logs. If a session is removed from memory, an administrator can determine what happened to the session information by reviewed the logs. Preferably, Logging Service 430 is called to log exceptions; session creation; session revocation; session revocation by administrator; and session revocation due to idle timeout. Each log comprises a plurality of records. Each log record includes a session identifier and information identifying the client that caused the logged event.

Sampson, col. 9, lines 52 through col. 10, line 4.

Client 100 then requests a protected resource from Protected Server 104B. Runtime 406B updates the Last Access Time value, and provides it to Session Manager 420A, which also updates its copy of the Last Access Time. Assume that Client 100 actively works with resources managed by Protected Server 104B for more than 15 minutes, and then returns to Access Server 104A to obtain one of its protected resources. Since the Last Access Time value is updated by Session Manager 420B each time Client 100 interacts with Access Server 104B, Session Manager 420A determines that Client 100 is active and may interact with Protected Server 104A to access its resources.

Sampson, col. 14, lines 25-36.

The first passage (col. 9, lines 52 through col. 10, line 4) simply describes a database that maintains a list of sessions. That passage also describes a logging service that records actions taken by session managers in a log. The second passage simply describes a client requesting a protected resource from a protected resource server and then updating a last access time value.

Nothing in either of these passages teaches an association module as that element is recited in Claim 20. More particularly the passages fail to teach or suggest

an "association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service." For at least this reason, Claim 20 is patentable over the cited references as is Claim 21 which depends from Claim 20.

Grounds For Rejection E (Claims 7, 8, 15, 16, and 25) – Sampson and Lu fail to teach or suggest querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103: The Examiner rejected Claims 4, 7-8, 15-16, 18, 29, 22, and 24-25 under §103 as being unpatentable over Sampson in view of US Pub 2004/0015580 to Lu.

Claim 7 is directed to a method for producing an electronic document and recites the following acts:

1. generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;
2. querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page;
3. obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service;
4. locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data;
5. providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and
6. producing a document according to selections made through the web page.

The Examiner asserts that the act of querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page is taught by Sampson, col. 10, lines 40-45. That passage is reproduced as follows:

Session management in the system 400 is carried out with respect to sessions between clients such as client 100 and servers such as Protected Server 104, 112. Each session between a client and a server is represented by a set of session information. The session information preferably comprises: an initial session identifier value; an initial access time value; a last access time value; a user identifier value or key; a general timeout value; and an idle timeout value.

This paragraph describes session management between a client and a server where each session is represented by session information. The passage lists potential types of data to be included in the session information. Nothing in this passage teaches, suggests or even hints at a method that includes querying an association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered by providing an URL for a generated web page as recited by Claim 7. More particularly, the passage is completely unrelated to "querying the association service to identify an identity service or any other service for that matter.

Lu is silent on this point

For at least these reasons, Claim 7 is patentable over Sampson and Lu as is Claim 8 which depends from Claim 7

Claim 15 is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 7. For at least the same reasons Claim 7 is patentable, so are Claim 15 and Claim 16 which depends from Claim 15.

Claim 25 is directed to a system for implementing the method of Claim 7. For at least the same reasons Claim 7 is patentable, so is Claim 25.

Grounds For Rejection F (Claims 7, 8, 15, 16, and 25) – Sampson and Lu fail to teach or suggest locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103: The Examiner rejected Claims 4, 7-8, 15-16, 18, 29, 22, and 24-25 under §103 as being unpatentable over Sampson in view of US Pub 2004/0015580 to Lu.

Claim 7 is directed to a method for producing an electronic document and recites the following acts:

1. generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;
2. querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page;
3. obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service;
4. locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data;
5. providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and
6. producing a document according to selections made through the web page.

The Examiner admits that Sampson fails to teach the act of locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data, but asserts that the act is taught by Lu, paragraph [0064] which is reproduced as follows:

[0064] The illustration in FIG. 5 shows, at a high level, how the invention operates. The visitor makes a web page request in step (1) by typing in a URL into a browser program operating on the client node 36. The URL has a domain (such as amazon.com) that points it toward a particular web

server 30 located on the Internet. That web server is the device on which the web site is stored. The web site is constructed using a html or JavaScript code including the original web page code (including text and images), data mining code, and additional cookie processing code supplied by the web tracking provider that performs the functions described in more detail below to establish and process a cookie right on the client node without additional interaction with the web tracking provider..

The relevance of this paragraph is highly suspect. It merely describes browsing to a particular URL referencing a web site stored by a web server. The web site includes data mining code and additional cookie processing code supplied by a web tracking provider. The cookie processing code processes a cookie on a client node without interacting with the web tracking provider.

Nothing in the paragraph teaches, suggest, or even hints at a method that includes the acts of locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data. For at least these reasons, Claim 7 is patentable over Sampson and Lu as is Claim 8 which depends from Claim 7

Claim 15 is directed to a computer readable medium having instructions for implementing the method of Claim 7. For at least the same reasons Claim 7 is patentable, so are Claim 15 and Claim 16 which depends from Claim 15.

Claim 25 is directed to a system for implementing the method of Claim 7. For at least the same reasons Claim 7 is patentable, so is Claim 25.

Grounds For Rejection G (Claims 19, 22, and 23) – Sampson and Lu fail to teach or suggest an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103: The Examiner rejected Claims 4, 7-8, 15-16, 18, 29, 22, and 24-25 under §103 as being unpatentable over Sampson in view of US Pub 2004/0015580 to Lu.

Claim 19 is directed to a document production system and recites the following elements:

1. an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data; and
2. a document production application operable to:
 - a. provide an interface having content for sending association data containing a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;
 - b. acquire resource data from an identity service identifier identified by a query from the association module;
 - c. locate and access a document management service using the resource data; and
 - d. provide, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and
 - e. produce a document according to selections made through the interface.

The Examiner ties the rejection of Claim 19 with the rejections of Claims 7, 15, 22, and 24-25 making the following statement:

As per claims 7, 15, 19, 22 and 24-25, Sampson et al teaches a method for producing an electronic document, comprising: generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for

selecting production options; querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page; obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service (See col. 10, lines 40-45); However, Sampson et al fails to teach locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data; providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and producing a document according to selections made through the web page.

Lu et al teaches locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data; providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and producing a document according to selections made through the web page (See page 4, paragraph [0064]).

In this statement the examiner mentions nothing of a system of components let alone a system that includes an association module operable to query an association service supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. As clarified above, Sampson fails to teach a method that includes identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data. As such, Sampson also fails to teach a system that includes a component that is operable to perform a related act of querying an association service supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. Lu is silent on this point

Consequently, Sampson and Lu fail to teach an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data. For at least this reason, Claim 19 is patentable over Sampson and Lu.

Claim 22 is directed to a document production system and recites the following elements:

1. a document management service;

2. an identity service operable to manage resource data for locating and accessing the document management service;
3. an association server operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table;
4. an association table interface in communication with the association server and operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using the session identifier supplied with the query;
5. an association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service;
6. a document production application operable to:
 - a. provide an interface having content for sending association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;
 - b. acquire resource data from an identity service using the session identifier for the identity service identified by a query from the association module;
 - c. locate and access the document management service using the resource data;
 - d. provide, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and
 - e. produce a document according to selections made through the interface.

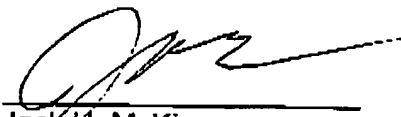
Once again, The Examiner mysteriously ties the rejection of Claim 22 with the rejections of Claims 7, 15, 19, and 24-25. As with Claim 19, Sampson and Lu fail to teach or suggest an association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service. For at least

this reason, Claim 22 is patentable over Sampson and Lu as is Claim 23 which depends from Claim 22.

Conclusion: In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing the application to issue is earnestly solicited. The foregoing is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,
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By



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June 26, 2006

APPENDIX OF CLAIMS INVOLVED IN THE APPEAL

1. (original) In a computer network, a method for locating a resource, comprising:
providing an interface having instructions to send association data;
identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service
managing resource data; and
locating the resource using the resource data.
2. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising performing a specified
task utilizing the resource.
3. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the association data includes a
client identifier and a session identifier associated with the interface, and wherein the
act of identifying comprises:
providing the session identifier associated with the interface, identifying the client
identifier included in the association data;
identifying other association data containing that client identifier; and
acquiring at least a portion of the session identifier included in the other
association data.
4. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the act of providing comprises
providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug sending association
data containing a cookie and an URL for the web page; and
wherein the act of identifying comprises:
providing the URL to identify the association data containing the cookie;
identifying other association data containing the cookie; and
acquiring an URL for the identity service from the identified association
data.
5. (original) In a computer network, a method for locating a resource for a user,

comprising:

providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services;

identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which the user has established a relationship;

identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data; and

locating the resource using the resource data.

6. (original) In a computer network, a method for locating a resource comprising:
providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug;
requesting the web bug sending a cookie and an URL for the web page;
saving the cookie and the URL for the web page as an entry in an association table;

querying, providing the URL for the web page, the association table for the cookie in the entry containing the URL;

identifying other entries in the association table containing the cookie;

identifying from those entries an entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data; and

locating the resource using the resource data.

7. (original) A method for producing an electronic document, comprising:
generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;

querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page;

obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service;

locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data;

providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and
producing a document according to selections made through the web page.

8. (original) The method of Claim 7, wherein:

the act of generating comprises generating a web page having instructions to request a web bug sending, to the association service association, data containing a cookie and an URL for the web page;

the method further comprises saving the association data as an entry in an association table;

the act of querying further comprises identifying the cookie in the saved entry using the provided the URL, identifying other association data containing the identified cookie, and, from the other identified association data, acquiring an URL for the identity service; and

the act of obtaining the user's resource data comprises obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service using, at least in part, the acquired URL.

9. (original) A computer readable medium having instructions for:

providing an interface having instructions to send association data;

identifying an identity service using the association data, the identity service managing resource data; and

locating a resource using the resource data.

10. (original) The medium of Claim 9, having further instructions for performing a specified task utilizing the resource.

11. (original) The medium of Claim 9, wherein the association data includes a client identifier and a session identifier associated with the interface, and wherein the instructions for identifying comprise instructions for:

providing the session identifier associated with the interface, identifying the client identifier included in the association data;

identifying other association data containing that client identifier; and
acquiring the session identifier included in the other association data.

12. (original) The medium of Claim 9, wherein the instructions for providing comprise instructions for providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug sending association data containing a cookie and an URL for the web page; and wherein the instructions for identifying comprise instructions for:

providing the URL to identify the association data containing the cookie;

identifying other association data containing the cookie; and
acquiring, from the identified association data, an URL for the identity service.

13. (original) A computer readable medium having instructions for:
providing an interface having instructions to send association data to two or more association services;

identifying from the two or more association services, an association service with which a user has established a relationship;

identifying an identity service using the association data sent to the identified association service, the identity service managing resource data; and
locating a resource for the user using the resource data.

14. (original) A computer readable medium having instructions for:
providing a web page having instructions to request a web bug;
requesting the web bug sending a cookie and an URL for the web page;
saving the cookie and the URL for the web page as an entry in an association table;
querying, providing the URL for the web page, the association table for the

cookie in the entry containing the URL;

identifying another entries in the association table containing the cookie;

identifying, from those entries, the entry containing an URL for an identification service, the identification service managing resource data; and

locating a resource using the resource data.

15. (original) A computer readable medium having instructions for:

generating, upon request from a user, a web page having content for requesting a web bug from an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;

querying the association service to identify an identity service with which the user is registered providing an URL for the generated web page;

obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service;

locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data;

providing additional content for the web page for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and

producing a document according to selections made through the web page.

16. (original) The medium of Claim 15, wherein:

the instructions for generating comprise instructions for generating a web page having instructions to request a web bug sending to the association service association data containing a cookie and an URL for the web page;

the medium having further instructions for saving the association data as an entry in an association table;

the instructions for querying further comprise instructions for identifying the cookie in the saved entry using the provided the URL, identifying other association data containing the identified cookie, and, from the other identified association data, acquiring an URL for the identity service; and

the instructions for obtaining the user's resource data comprise instructions for

obtaining the user's resource data from the identified identity service using, at least in part, the acquired URL.

17. (original) A system for locating a resource, comprising:
- an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier, in order to identify an identity service managing resource data; and
 - an application operable to:
 - provide an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;
 - acquire resource data from an identity service identified by a query from the association module; and
 - locate the resource using the resource data.

18. (original) The system of Claim 17, wherein:
- the application is further operable to provide the interface in the form of a web page having instructions to send association data containing a cookie and the URL for the provided web page; and
 - the association module is further operable to provide the URL and query the association service for an URL for the identity service.

19. (original) A document production system, comprising:
- an association module operable to query an association service, supplying a session identifier in order to identify an identity service managing resource data; and
 - a document production application operable to:
 - provide an interface having content for sending association data containing a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;
 - acquire resource data from an identity service identifier identified

by a query from the association module;

locate and access a document management service using the resource data; and

provide, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and

produce a document according to selections made through the interface.

20. (original) A system for locating a resource, comprising:

an identity service operable to manage resource data;

an association server operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table;

an association table interface in communication with the association server and operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using a session identifier supplied with the query;

an association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service;

an application operable to:

provide an interface having instructions to send association data to an association server, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;

acquire resource data from the identity service identified by a query from the association module; and

locate the resource using the resource data.

21. (original) The system of Claim 20, wherein:

the application is further operable to provide the interface in the form of a web page having instructions to send association data containing a cookie and the URL for

the provided web page;

the association module is further operable to provide the URL interface and query the association service for an URL for the identity service; and

the association table interface is further operable to locate an entry in the association table containing the provided URL, identify the cookie in the located entry, identify other entries containing that cookie, and, from those other entries, acquire an URL for the identity service; and

the application is further operable to use the acquired URL to acquire resource data from the identity service.

22. (original) A document production system, comprising:

a document management service;

an identity service operable to manage resource data for locating and accessing the document management service;

an association server operable to receive association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier, save the association data in an association table, and receive queries for the association table;

an association table interface in communication with the association server and operable, according to a received query, to access from the association table a session identifier for the identity service using the session identifier supplied with the query;

an association module operable to query, supplying a session identifier, the association service in order to identify the identity service;

a document production application operable to:

provide an interface having content for sending association data containing a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface to an association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;

acquire resource data from an identity service using the session identifier for the identity service identified by a query from the association

module;

locate and access the document management service using the resource data;

provide, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and

produce a document according to selections made through the interface.

23. (original) The system of Claim 22, wherein:

the association table interface is further operable to locate an entry in the association table containing the session identifier supplied with a query, identify the client identifier in the located entry, identify other entries containing that client identifier, and, from those other entries, acquire a session identifier for the Identity service; and

the document production application is further operable to use the acquired session identifier for the identity service to acquire resource data from the identity service.

24. (original) A system for locating a resource, comprising:

a means for querying, supplying a session identifier, an association service in order to identify an identity service managing resource data;

a means for providing an interface having instructions to send association data to the association service, the association data to contain a client identifier and a session identifier for the provided interface;

a means for acquiring resource data from an identity service identified by a query; and

a means for locating the resource using the resource data.

25. (original) A document production system, comprising:

a means for querying, supplying a session identifier, an association service in

order to identify an identity service managing resource data;

a means for providing an interface having content for sending association data containing a session identifier for the provided interface to the association service as well as content for displaying controls for selecting production options;

a means for acquiring resource data from an identity service identifier identified by a query;

a means for locating and accessing a document management service using the resource data;

a means for providing, for the interface, additional content for displaying controls for selecting a document managed by the document management service; and

a means for producing a document according to selections made through the interface.

Evidence Appendix

There is no extrinsic evidence to be considered in this Appeal. Therefore, no evidence is presented in this Appendix.

Related Proceedings Appendix

There are no related proceedings to be considered in this Appeal. Therefore, no such proceedings are identified in this Appendix.